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1. A member of the Managing Committee of the Demokratischer Frauenbund Deutschlands (DFD) was requested to call upon Captain Bokareva of the SMA, Karlshorst, on 30 December 1947. She was told that the DFD must become more active and that for the purpose of winning new members it would be necessary, in future, to take various trips, and to hold rallies, speeches, and the like.
2. Captain Bokareva complained that the Executive Committee had not enough active members, since Emmy Damerius and Elsa Liders (the latter has since died) had been sick for many weeks, and since Dr. Durand-Wever was kept extremely busy professionally. In this connection, the DFD caller proposed that Frau Durand-Wever be replaced by Emmy Damerius, who, having the most outstanding personality of all SED members, would be elected to this post anyhow sooner or later. Maria Rentmeister, the secretary-general, felt, however, that it would be unwise at the present time to choose as first chairman a woman who was known to be an ardent SED follower. It was therefore agreed that Frau Durand-Wever should continue as chairman for another year.
3. It may be well to recall that the SED originally sponsored the appointment of Dr. Durand-Wever, feeling that it would be an asset to have as chairman a woman known to have no party affiliations. It had also been hoped that she might become a willing tool of the SED, the more so since her allegedly unpolitical daughter is a close friend of Edith Hauser who is a very active SED member and a SMA informer. At that time, members of other parties had not favored Durand-Wever, as it was felt that her partial deafness disqualified her for such an important post. To begin with, however, Dr. Durand-Wever gained the confidence of the SMA and the SED, although she tried to justify her actions in the eyes of non-SED members by talking to them individually, voicing her fears, and warning them not to undertake anything rash. It therefore never became quite clear whether Durand-Wever had become an SED tool, or whether she lacked backbone.

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4. During the talk with Captain Bokareva, the DFD chairman explained that she was not favoring secret ballots, since this would mean that all vacancies in the managing committees would be filled by SED members only - a procedure which not even the SED would approve. Bokareva did not contest this point.
5. Captain Bokareva and the DFD chairman agreed that the recruiting of members in the western zones of Germany was of major importance.
6. The Executive Committee decided at its meeting of 2 January 1948 to apply for membership in the International Women's Federation during that organization's executive meeting to be held in Warsaw on 10 March. Dr. Durand-Wever, who up to now had been against an affiliation with the International Women's Federation, claiming that such a move would be unwise in view of the aggravated political situation, suddenly reversed her attitude and favored the move.
7. It was proposed at the same meeting that in order to further recruitment of women from the western zones, members of the DFD should be sent to the western zones in a private capacity to call upon and try to win over prominent women.
8. In its letter of 20 December 1947, the Allied Komandatura approved the licensing of the DFD for Greater Berlin, to be known henceforth as "Demokratischer Frauenbund von Berlin." The letter enumerated the conditions under which the organization would be allowed to function as a political unit. Great consternation was caused by para. III of this letter which reads as follows:
- "The organization is forbidden to extend its activities beyond Greater Berlin. This does not preclude contact with other women's organizations, provided that the approval of the Supreme Commanders in the zones and of the Allied Komandatura has been secured. Officials of this organization are not permitted to accept leading positions, or to become active members of other women's organizations, no matter whether the main office of the organization is located in or outside Berlin."
9. A considerable number of women, such as Greta Kuckhoff, Maria Rentmeister, Dr. von Renthe, Kandtner, Charlotte Kloss, etc., will be affected by this order, and it will therefore become necessary to modify the by-laws of the DFD. The question was discussed whether the organization should send a letter of protest to the Allied Komandatura, pointing out that the restriction is a curtailment of personal freedom.
10. During the meeting of 30 January, it was decided to issue an official statement as an answer to newspaper articles which had doubted the DFD allegations that this organization was above party politics, and to launch simultaneously an attack against the SPD which is considered to have a destructive influence upon the campaign for a united Germany. The DFD attaches great importance to a continuance of smooth relations with the bloc parties, and it was noticed in this relation that great consideration has recently been shown to the LDP.
11. The Demokratischer Frauenbund von Berlin plans to hold a rally in the Berliner Rundfunk at which Frau von Renthe will be one of the speakers.

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